Is Your Community and Its Youth Ready for Positive Changes?

The Student Support Card™ program works in partnership with school districts, and other organizations and institutions who seek improve the lives of their local youth and support their growth for successful futures.

We know that real change must be systemic, and that all of the stakeholders involved in the lives are youth, including the youths themselves, profoundly benefit from meaningful and measurable collaborative engagement, problem-solving, and relationship-building.

Our program includes student-centered events such as Phlight Clubs™ and Professional Development for youth-serving adults through our Student Support Card Academies™. Our online tools, provided through our website, StudentSupportCard.com, and associated training, helps to measure and communicate a youth's kaleidoscope snapshots and changes to help themselves, and their caring adults, help to target areas for discussion, action, and growth.

For More Information

We look forward to talking with you about your needs, funding options, how the program can be adapted to your local community, etc.

Please contact Lisa "Kersch" Kerscher at 406.542.3334 x13 or kersch@wwidea.org to learn more and start getting your questions answered.

The International Institute for Student Support is led by Derek Peterson, an international child/youth advocate and the voice of the Student Support Card™. He has dedicated his life to improving the health and well being of youth worldwide. In his work, and that of the institute, he supports youth and adults in creating and sustaining developmentally rich ecologies for kids, by implementing the best youth/human development research into the lives of youth, families, schools, and communities.

Derek has been leading student leadership conferences since 1990. Many graduates of his programs of gone on to attend many of America's most distinguished universities, have started large companies and small businesses, have traveled the world, appeared on national television, and lived their dreams.

International Institute for Student Support
Home of the Student Support Card™

The Institute's initiatives help our youth by cultivating caring and connected communities.

Children and teens are more disconnected from their families, schools, and communities than ever before.

Our methods replace
helplessness with empowerment,
low self-esteem with higher self-worth,
isolation with community and parent engagement.

Our programs result in stronger, more resilient youth, who have the tools and the attitudes to improve their lives, contribute to their communities, and achieve academic success.

www.StudentSupportCard.com

The Student Support Card: A Full-Spectrum Approach

The work of the International Institute for Student Support (IISS) is based on the full-spectrum approach of Integrative Youth Development (IYD)™, which measures and assesses key aspects, what we refer to as phactors, of a youth's developmental ecology. We commonly refer to this as the Student Support Card™ — "the other side of the report card" — since it is crucial to a youth's academic, as well as social, success in life.

Each person's unique developmental ecology consists of a kaleidoscope of color — red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet (ROYGBIV). Our kaleidoscope changes as we grow, evolve ... from year to year, and day to day.

IYD supports the common sense knowledge of what people, of all cultures, know and understand about "helping kids succeed". This program is built around the best of the positive youth development research (e.g., Hawkins and Catalano's Communities that Care, Benson's Developmental Assets, Kretzman and McNight's Building Communities from the Inside Out, Peterson's Rule of Five, Pittman's Dashboard, Werner's Children of Kauai, the Positive Youth Development movement, Social Norming, and others).

The Student Support Card™ unites competing programs, professional and personal paradigms and vocabularies, and funding silos within a community to one focus — Helping Kids Succeed. It is brought forth to the community as a "remembering" rather than a new solution from an outside expert. It's common sense, research-based language and frame of reference is used to organize, promote, and measure efforts targeted at children and youth. IYD incorporates all of the evidence-based resiliency frameworks of youth development, and it offers youth, families, agencies, schools a way to measure the relevance of their work, and to further focus their resources on "what matters and what works".

We need a full-spectrum in our kaleidoscope to do well in our lives. Student Support activities, especially our Phlight Clubs™, help reveal and enrich each youth's kaleidoscope and helps shed light and better focus on where and how they can fly toward their futures.

Red — **The Rule of Five** (Anchors for the "Web of Support"): The foundation for each youth's own personal village is having five caring adults (or more) in their lives, who have high expectations and provide opportunities, teach skills, and celebrate relative best in appropriate ways.

Orange — **Tangible Supports** (Adding strings to the "Web of Support"): Measurable supports provided through the youth's Anchors that shape their home, school, and community environment.

Yellow — **Intangible Supports** (Adding strings of virtues to the "Web of Support"): Important, yet difficult to measure, beliefs, values, and behaviors that are being taught to and caught by the youth.

Green — **Growing Your Balloon:** A person's innate characterisitcs, natural abilities, and talents that increase the likelihood they will remain connected to their Web of Support.

Blue — **Scissor Cuts:** Reducing or eliminating the conditions, actions, and attitudes that erode the strings being created by the Anchors.

Indigo — **Caring for the Carers** (The web beneath your Anchors): Supporting those who anchor your web so they do not drop out of your life, even when circumstances in their own lives change.

Violet — **Social Norms** (The storm that affects the entire web): The climate and culture of the social environment (home, school, and/or community) that have been accepted or agreed upon by

We refer to as a youth's *kaleidoscope* as a snapshot of the particular mixture and strength of these colors at any given time. We measure and record these snapshots using our activities, strategies, and tools.

They help give a youth and the people that care about them clarity and insight in order to improve the strength of their positive phactors, reduce the negative phactors, and continuously move and grow themselves into life-long satisfaction and success.